



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
San Diego Public Library

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ARTFUL CONVERSATIONS: 30x: THREE DECADES

Director of Education at the Museum of Photographic Arts to Speak about MOPA's 30th Anniversary Exhibition, 30x: Three Decades

SAN DIEGO – Joaquin Ortiz, Director of Education at the Museum of Photographic Arts (MOPA,) will discuss MOPA's history and 30th anniversary exhibition, *30x: Three Decades*. This event is the latest in San Diego Public Library's *Artful Conversations* series, and is at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. Ortiz will present MOPA's history, its collection, and key pieces in *30x* that capture the spirit of MOPA's 30-year history. An open discussion about photographs from the exhibition will conclude the event, and audience participation is highly encouraged. This event is free and open to the public.

Founded in 1983, MOPA became one of the first museums in the United States dedicated solely to exhibiting and collecting the finest in photographic art, film, and video. Prior to its founding in Balboa Park, MOPA was the "Center for Photographic Arts," a museum without walls that exhibited and promoted photography as an art form in the 1970s. Since its inception, MOPA has presented dynamic world-class photography exhibitions and built a permanent collection of 7,000 images spanning the history of photography from the 19th century to present. *30x* is comprised of one acquisition from each of MOPA's 30 years, showcasing works from influential photographers such as Alexander Rodchenko, Loretta Lux, Thomas Struth, Lee Friedlander, Robert Adams, Marian Drew, and other artists. The exhibition will be on view at MOPA from February 2, 2013 through October 13, 2013.

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Joaquin Ortiz has a background in documentary media production and non-profit arts education, and brings new approaches to visitor engagement and outreach programming. In his time with MOPA he developed the SEPIA program, which brings photography instruction and interpretive programs to senior citizens throughout San Diego County. He also oversaw the Museum's initiatives to offer interactive digital technology experiences in the galleries and through the Internet, which have received international recognition and awards. He became the Director of Education in the summer of 2012. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Santa Cruz in Film and Digital Media, and a Master of Arts in Educational Technology from San Diego State University.

For more information about the exhibition, visit www.mopa.org/30x. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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